

Western Run Feasibility Study: Progress Report September 2006



Baltimore City – Department of Recreation and Parks



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After extensive field visits, discussions with the Department of Transportation and community meetings, three different options for improving pedestrian and bicycle access along the Western Run have been developed. Due to varying conditions and space constraints, no single design option is possible for the entire length. Each of the three options meets safety codes and offers a variety of experiences in response to wishes expressed during community meetings.

The City is interested in learning which of these projects will best meet the communities' needs. The three improvement projects do not depend upon each other, and the community may choose to recommend a single option or a combination of the options. The 3 options are summarized in the following presentation.



Option 1 – Improve Existing Conditions

This option improves the existing 4 foot sidewalk along the south side of Cross Country Blvd and Kelly Ave. from Fallstaff Road to Mount Washington Village. A good condition is defined as a continuous, even surface with minimal cracks, no settling, adjacent vegetation trimmed out of pedestrians way, a 4 foot width maintained where possible and accessible ramps at intersections. A few sections of the sidewalk meet these standards, however, large sections need repair and upgrading. In addition, the sidewalk needs to be connected from Pimlico Road to the fire station.



Option 2 - Streamside Sidewalk

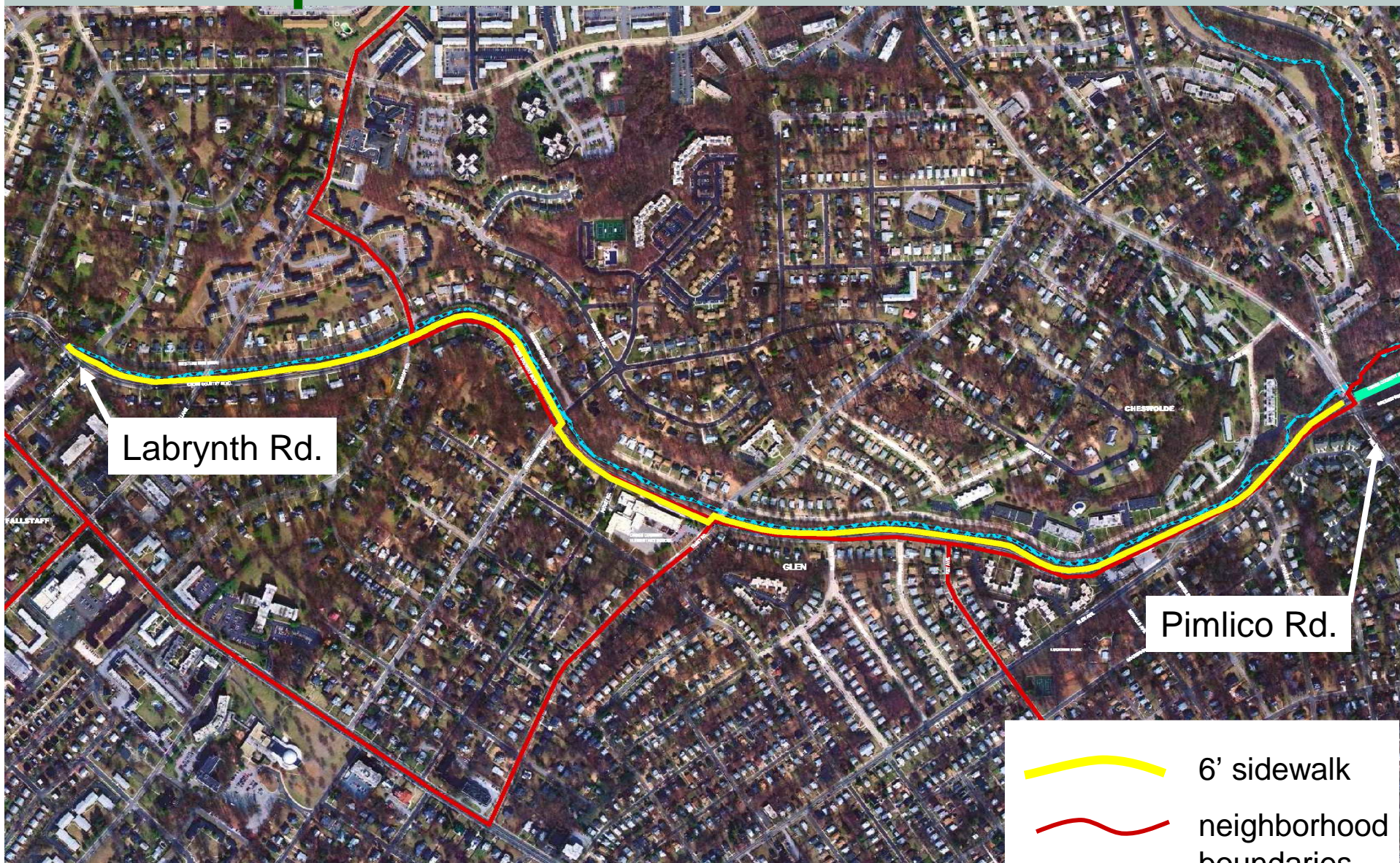
This option explores the potential of a 6 foot sidewalk mainly in the greenway between Cross Country Blvd. and the Western Run streambed. The area under consideration is between Labrynth Road, where the stream begins, and Pimlico Road. The purpose would be recreational, allowing the pedestrian to enjoy the greenway following a path as it meanders through the existing trees.



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Option 2 - Streamside Sidewalk



- 6' sidewalk
- neighborhood boundaries



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Option 2 - Streamside Sidewalk With Buffer



Typical Section



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Option 3 - Paved Bike Path

This option is an 8 foot bike path along Cross Country Blvd. and Kelly Ave. from Pimlico Road to Mount Washington Elementary School. The 35' wide road would be re-stripped to allow two 14 foot wide curb lanes, continuing the present vehicle and commuter cyclist uses. An 8 foot bike/pedestrian path would use the remaining 7 feet and one foot of shoulder on the north side. The path would allow the user to safely travel from Pimlico Rd. to Mount Washington Village while enjoying the beauty of the adjacent wooded areas.



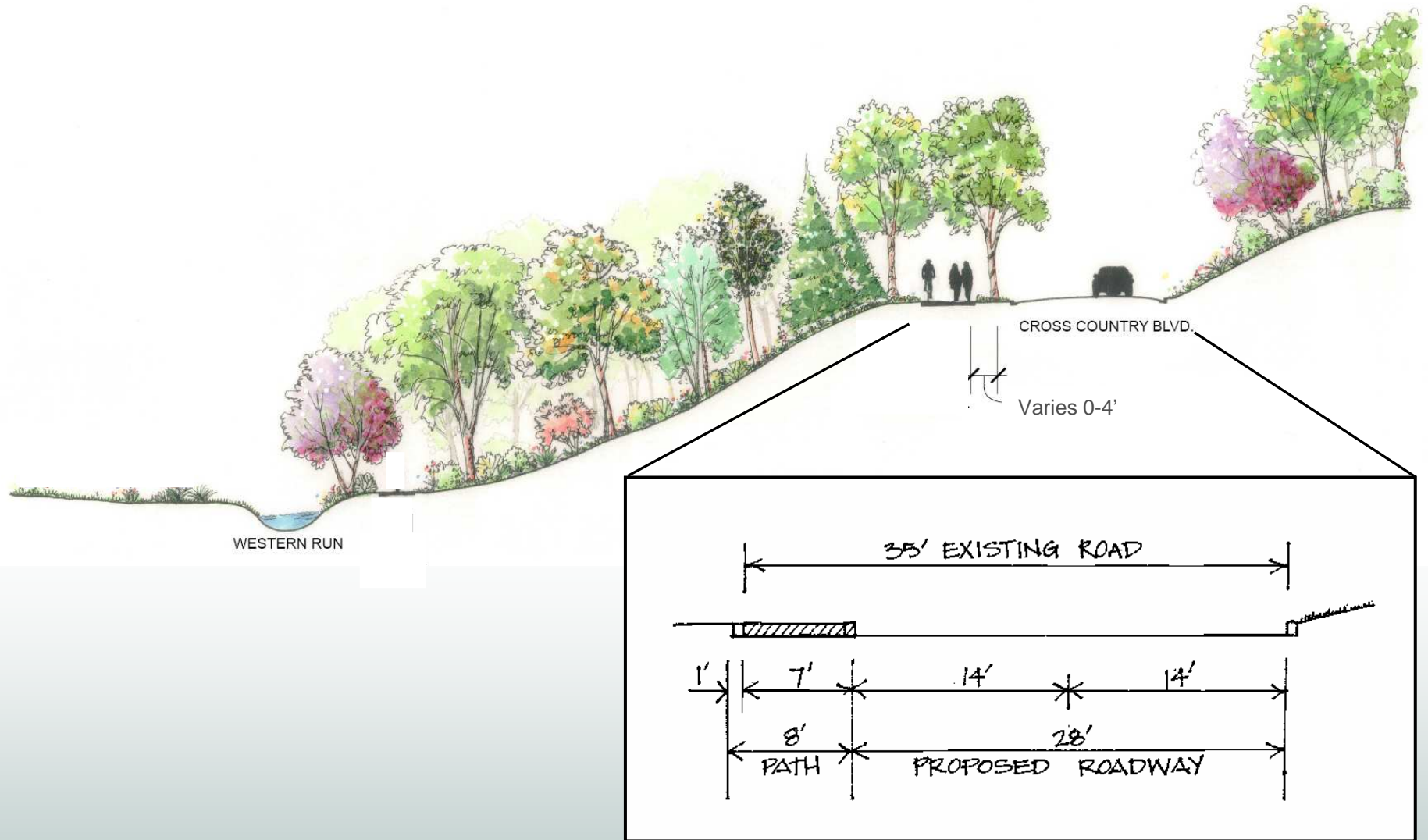
Option 3 - Paved Bike Path



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Option 3 – Paved Bike Path



Typical Section



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In November, the City will host another general meeting to discuss these three greenway design options. Please contact your community association for details about the date and location of this meeting.

